

## Message Text

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15

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DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:MHENDERSON:JY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 020974

E.O. 11652, GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OGEN, SCUL, LA, US

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO LAO NOTE ON LAA

REF: A. VIENTIANE 150, B. VIENTIANE 170

1. DEPARTMENT AND USIA HAVE REVIEWED YOUR PROPOSED RESPONSE TO LAA MFA NOTE (NO. 56/AE.AP) OF JANUARY 16 FORMALLY GIVING NOTICE OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE LAO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION (LAA). WE FIND THE LAO NOTE UNEXCEPTIONABLE. WE SHOULD, AS YOU SUGGEST, USE THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE NOTE TO STATE TO THE LAO OUR RESERVATION OF RIGHT TO MAINTIAN SOME KIND OF CULTURAL PRESENCE IN LAOS.

2. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT YOU AMEND YOUR PROPOSED REPLY AS FOLLOWS:

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'EMBASSY PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS, ETC., AND HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE MINISTRY'S NOTE NUMBER 56/AE.AP OF JANUARY 15, 1976, CONCERNING THE DECISION OF THE PDRL TO DISSOLVE THE LAO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

'THE EMBASSY REGRETS THAT THE PDRL FOUND IT NECESSARY TO TAKE SUCH ACTION WITH RESPECT TO AN EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION WHICH FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS HAD DEDICATED ITSELF TO STRENGTHENING THE BONDS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF LAOS AND THE UNITED STATES.

'THE EMBASSY DOES NOT QUESTION THE RIGHT OF THE PDRL TO ABOLISH A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF LAOS AND IS PLEASED TO INFORM THE MINISTRY THAT THE MODALITIES OF TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION WERE COMPLETED ON JANUARY 14 BY STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION DEALING DIRECTLY WITH OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION. THERE IS ATTACHED A COPY OF THE RECEIPT ISSUED BY APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY TO THE ASSOCIATION ON THAT DATE.

'THE EMBASSY WISHES TO CALL THE MINISTRY'S ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT CERTAIN ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH TO OFFICIALS OF THE LAO GOVERNMENT AND TO PRIVATE LAO CITIZENS, CARRIED ON BY THE ASSOCIATION WERE SUBSIDIZED IN PART BY THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE, AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE EMBASSY MAY, IN DUE COURSE, WISH TO REINSTITUTE SUCH EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, ON WHICH IT FORMERLY COLLABORATED WITH THE LAA, AS PART OF THE CONTINUING PROGRAM OF NORMAL EMBASSY ACTIVITIES WHICH IT INTENDS TO CONDUCT ON THE SAME BASIS AS THE PROGRAMS OF SEVERAL OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN LAOS.'

(COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE.)

3. WE LEAVE THE TIMING OF THIS RESPONSE TO YOU, BUT SEE NO PARTICULAR NEED TO HURRY IN RESPONDING.

4. FYI: REF B, VIENTIANE 170. BANK OF AMERICA AND DR.  
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ALLEN AT UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED. LIST OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS, REF B, PARA 6, HAS BEEN CALLED TO ATTENTION OF THE BANK. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES, DIPLOMATIC NOTES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE020974  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MHENDERSON:JY  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 76 VIENTIANE 150, 76 VIENTIANE 170  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
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**Subject:** RESPONSE TO LAO NOTE ON LAA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OGEN, SCUL, LA, US, LAA  
**To:** VIENTIANE  
**Type:** TE  
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